Committee Room, City Hall,
April 8th, 1920.

TENTH MEETING.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RAILWAY CROSSINGS meets in the Committee Room, City Hall, on Thursday, April 8th, 1920, at 8.05 p.m.
PRESENT: Aldermen J.C.Wilson M.D., Watkinson, Drake and Moorhead.

S.Baker certifying that the Council adopted the following motion, viz:- "That whereas it has been stated that during the past eight years there were twenty-eight persons killed and seventy more or less injured on the level crossings of the City of London, and it seems reasonable to suppose that by reason of increased traffic, this danger will be increased.

Be it resolved that a Special Committee consisting of Alderman Watkinson, Wilson, Moorhead and Drake, be appointed to consider and report upon:- 1. The question of better protection for the public at railway crossings, 2. The question of track elevation, with a view of securing early action on both questions."

Alderman Moorhead, seconded by Alderman Drake, moves, and it is adopted, that Alderman Dr. Wilson be chairman.

31. RAILWAY CROSSINGS (see par 11).

Alderman Dr. Wilson assumes the chair, and states that the meeting had been called to consider railway crossing matters.

Upon motion the Committee take up the first clause of the motion, viz:- 1."The question of better protection for the Public at railway crossings." (a) Light. The City Engineer states that more lights are provided for in the estimates of this year, and that foreign lights are not allowed at crossings.

Alderman Drake moves, and it is adopted, that lights be placed to throw light on tracks.

Alderman Drake, moves,and it is adopted, that Span lights be placed on both sides of the crossings at Clarence, Wellington, Waterloo, Colborne, Maitland, William, Adelaide and Rectory Streets, and one at the coal shunting track at Adelaide Street.

(b) Bill Boards and Fences.

The Chairman states that many crossings are view-blocked by bill boards and fences, and states that the London Bill Posting Agency have intimated their willingness to help in the matter.

Alderman Moorhead moves, and it is adopted, that the City Engineer report on the matter of Bill boards and fences.

(c) Crossing Service.

Upon motion the City Clerk is instructed to write the Railway Board on the matter of obtaining a twenty-four hour watch at all crossings, instead of the twelve hour watch now in practice.

(d) Watchmen.

The Chairman states that in his opinion, the watchmen at the crossings should be young men. The Grand Trunk should be asked to cooperate in the matter, and the Railway should have the bell or light system at crossings the same as the C.P.R. the light system preferably.

Upon motion the City Clerk is instructed to write the G.T.R. on the matter.

2. Subways and Track Elevation.

The Chairman states that track elevation is already under consideration, and that His Worship Mayor Little has the matter in hand.

Alderman Drake suggests that subways be built at some of the crossings to eliminate some of the danger.

Upon motion the City Engineer is asked to submit figures as to cost of subways at Ridout and Rectory Streets.

Alderman Moorhead, seconded by Alderman Drake,moves, and it is adopted, that "this Committee recommend that the City Clerk be instructed to write the Member for London Mr. H.B.Cronyn, M.P. asking him on behalf of the City Council of London to place before the proper authorities of the Dominion Government the danger existing with level crossings across so many streets in London, and that efforts be made immediately for the better protection and safety of the public by having some subways erected to relieve the situation, and that the Railway Board be asked to send a deputation to London to investigate the matter of subways and crossings.

Upon motion the Committee adjourned.

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Chairman.